

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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RSR-01 /095 W

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R 170547Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 483

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY KABUL

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FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM CONSUL PESHAWAR.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PK, AF

SUBJ: NAP LEADERS INCREASE PRESSURE ON BHUTTO: BIZENJO SUGGESTS
POSSIBLE FOREIGN HELP FOR BALUCH DISSIDENTS

1. TO COMMEMORATE ANNIVERSARY OF 1948 BHABRA
MASSACRE OF RED SHIRTS BY QAIYUM'S MUSLIM
LEAGUE GOVERNMENT, FRONTIER NAP LEADER ABDUL WALI KHAN,
BALUCH NAP LEADER GHASUS BAKHSH BIZENJO, JUI CHIEF
MUFTI MAHMUD AND OCTOGENERIAN ABDUL GHAFAR KHAN ADDRESSED
LARGE PUBLIC MEETING NEAR CHARSADDA AUGUST 12. APPARENT
AIM OF SPEECHES WAS TO PREPARE OPPOSITIONIST RANK AND
FILE FOR FORTHCOMING UDF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE CAMPAIGN
WHICH BARRING UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS IS SCHEDULED BEGIN
AUGUST 24. WALI KHAN AND BIZENJO DOMINATED GATHERING
WITH THEIR PROMISES OF DECISIVE LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE
AGAINST BHUTTO REGIME AND WON CHEERS FROM CROWD WITH
THEIR STATEMENTS THAT TIME FOR BEGGING AND DISCUSSION HAD
PASSED AND THAT PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN MUST NOW USE FORCE TO
OBTAIN THEIR BASIC RIGHTS. WALI KHAN SHOWERED USUAL
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ABUSE ON BHUTTO AND ASSERTED THAT ONLY WAY TO SAVE

COUNTRY FROM DESTRUCTION WAS TO REMOVE HIM FROM POWER. HE CONCLUDED WITH PLEA TO PEOPLE NOT TO BE AFRAID OF GOVERNMENT'S USE OF FORCE; HAVING ALREADY DRIVEN BRITISH OUT OF COUNTRY, THEY HAD NO REASON TO BE FEARFUL OF BHUTTO'S POWER NOR POWER OF HIS MASTERS, THE SHAH OF IRAN AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

2. FORMER BALUCHISTAN GOVERNOR BIZENJO HAD OPPORTUNITY AT PESHAWAR PRESS CONFERENCE ON FOLLOWING DAY TO ENLIVEN FURTHER THE NWFP POLITICAL SCENE. IN STATEMENT WHICH WAS WIDELY NOTED FOR ITS PUKHTUNISTAN AND SECESSIONIST OVERTONES, BIZENJO PROVIDED PRESS WITH IMPASSIONED NAP INTERPRETATION OF BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENTS AND WARNED THAT IF CURRENT MILITARY ACTIVITIES NOT HALTED, LEADERSHIP OF PROVINCE WOULD GO INTO HANDS OF EXTREMISTS WHO MIGHT BE FORCED TO ACCEPT ASSISTANCE FROM ANY QUARTER, INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY. IN REPLY TO SPECIFIC QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION, BIZENJO, AS REPORTED BY NAP NEWSPAPER SHAHBAZ, SAID THAT GOVERNMENT ITSELF IS CREATING CONDITIONS FAVORING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND IS DELIBERATELY FORCING PEOPLE OF BALUCHISTAN TO SEEK OUTSIDE SUPPORT. HE REPORTEDLY ADDED: "WHEN OUR LIVES, PROPERTY AND HONOR ARE IN DANGER, WE SHALL BE COMPELLED TO RELY ON OTHERS."

3. COMMENT: BY RAISING POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING FOREIGN, I.E. AFGHAN, ASSISTANCE FOR NAP DISSIDENTS IN BALUCHISTAN, NAP LEADERSHIP DOUBTLESS BELIEVES IT HAS STRENGTHENED ITS POSITION IN IST ONGOING WAR OF NERVES WITH PRIME MINISTER. WHILE WALI KHAN WILL PROBABLY BE WILLING TO LET HIS BALUCH ASSOCIATES CONTINUE TO TAKE LEAD IN DEVISING NEW RHETORICAL WEAPONS TO FLOURISH AGAINST GOVERNMENT, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FORMER NWFP GOVERNOR ARBAB SIKANDER AND OTHER LOCAL NAP STALWARTS HAVE BEEN PRIVATELY CIRCULATING REPORT IN PESHAWAR THAT BALUCH GUERRILLAS WOULD SOON BE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM NEIGHBORING COUNTRY (AFGHANISTAN).
SOBER

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